

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01326 250748Z

21

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01

NIC-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 MC-02 ACDA-05

/076 W

----- 085414

R 241300Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2588

SECDEF WASHDC//ISA(SA)/DSAA//

INFO DA WASHDC//DALO-ILM//

CDR AMC ALEX VA//AMCIL-O/MA//

USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7-SAME//

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: TDY TEAMS UNDER FMS PROGRAMS FOR KUWAIT

REF: A. DA 191651Z MAR 75

B. SECDEF 9762 DTG 141806Z MAR 75

C. KUWAIT 1054 DTG 061000Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

D. KUWAIT 4804 DTG 101255Z NOV 74 (NOTAL)

E. KUWAIT 5204 DTG 040537Z DEC 74 (NOTAL)

F. KUWAIT 0544 DTG 030850Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

G. KUWAIT 0545 DTG 030851Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

H. KUWAIT 0557 DTG 040700Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

I. KUWAIT 0735 DTG 150745Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

J. KUWAIT 0737 DTG 151012Z FEB 75 (NOTAL)

K. KUWAIT 1125 DTG 110910Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

L. KUWAIT 5220 DTG 041202Z DEC 74 (NOTAL)

M KUWAIT 5309 DTG 110626Z DEC 74 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: ASSIGNMENT TO KUWAIT OF VARIOUS TDY TEAMS IS
DISCUSSED AND RECOMMENDATION IS MADE THAT LETTERS OF OFFER ON
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01326 250748Z

TWO PROPOSED TEAMS NOT BE PREPARED AT THIS TIME. RECOMMENDATIONS

ON ASSIGNMENT TO THIRD TEAM ARE MADE. STATUS REPORT OF FIRST GOK REQUEST FOR TAFT IS REQUESTED. DEPARTMENTS' VIEWS ARE SOLICITED. END SUMMARY.

1. REFTELS (A) AND (B) INDICATE THREE LETTERS OF OFFER FOR TDY TEAMS FOR KUWAIT ARE BEING PREPARED. REFTEL (C) PROVIDED EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON MANNING OF USLOK (WHEN ESTABLISHED) AND RECOMMENDED (PARA 13) INITIAL ASSIGNMENTS BE ON AN INDEFINITE TDY BASIS, WITH UNDERSTANDING PERSONNEL WILL BE CONVERTED TO PCS WHEN QUARTERS, ETC. ARE AVAILABLE.

2. THE FOUR-MAN TDY AIR DEFENSE TEAM DESCRIBED REFTEL (A) IS UNNECESSARY. THREE OF FOUR QUALIFICATIONS ARE RECOMMENDED FOR USLOK STAFF DESCRIBED REFTEL (C). FORMATION OF ANOTHER TEAM HAVING PERSONNEL WITH THESE QUALIFICATIONS WOULD REPRESENT UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION.

3. REFTELS (C) THROUGH (K) REPORTED GOK INTEREST IN AAA DEFENSE AND REQUESTED ADVICE AS TO RELEASIBILITY OF VULCAN; CHAPPARAL AND/OR REDEYE. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO RESPONSES. WE UNDERSTAND IT HAS NOT BEEN USG POLICY IN PAST TO PROVIDE ADVISORS FOR NON-US EQUIPMENT. WITHOUT A POSITIVE USG RESPONSE TO GOK REQUEST FOR US AAA SYSTEMS, WE SUGGEST CONVENTIONAL AAA OFFICER NOT BE INCLUDED USLOK UNLESS AND UNTIL CLEAR DETERMINATION IS MADE WE ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE ADVISORS FOR NON-US WEAPONS SYSTEMS. PARA 8 REFTEL (C) APPLIES.) USG PERSONNEL PLACED IN POSITIONS OF SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE ON DECISIONS RE UK VS FRENCH OR OTHER THIRD-COUNTRY EQUIPMENT COULD CREATE SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS.

4. IN REFTEL (L), EMBASSY REQUESTED APPROXIMATE COST AND AVAILABILITY FOUR-MAN SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE TEAM FOR TWO-THREE YEARS: THIS WAS EMBASSY'S INITIATIVE SO MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED WITH KUWAITI MILITARY. AS STATED REFTEL (L), NO REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE BY GOK. UNDERCIRCUMSTANCES, LOA NOT REQUIRED.

5. ON RELATED MATTERS, SHORT-TERM TDY TEAMS ARE NOT VIEWED WITH FAVOR EITHER BY GOK OR EMBASSY TO MEET NEEDS WHICH WILL EXTEND OVER SEVERAL YEARS. IN ADDITION TO HIGH COST, PROBLEMS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 01326 250748Z

DUE TO LACK OF CONTINUITY AND CAUTIOUS ACCEPTANCE OF INDIVIDUALS BY KUWAITIS WILL MADE PRODUCTIVITY LOW. ANOTHER AREA OF EMBASSY CONCERN IS THAT USG HAS REQUESTED AND RECEIVED FAR MORE FUNDING (DOLLARS 46 MILLION UNDER FMS CASE SAE-P4) THAN IS REQUIRED TO MEET PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR SOME TIME. IT IS UNDERSTOOD GOK IS ALSO ON TIME WITH PAYMENTS FOR ALL FMS CASES, EVEN THOUGH DA IS DELINQUENT ON DELIVERY (519 M151'S ELEVEN MONTHS LATE). UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, IT APPEARS AT LEAST

SOME CASH ADVANCE REQUIREMENTS LEVIED ON GOK ARE UNBECOMING AND UNNECESSARY.

ACTIONS REQUESTED:

6. FOR REASONS STATED, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT LETTERS OF OFFER DESCRIBED IN PARA 1(A) AND 1(B) REFTEL (A) NOT BE PREPARED. IT ALSO RECOMMENDS LETTERS OF OFFER PARA 1(C) REFTEL (A) FOR PERSONNEL DESCRIBED REFTEL (C) BE UNDER TERMS OF RELIABLE UNDERTAKING (120-DAY PAYMENT).

7. WE REMAIN CONFUSED RE DOD POLICY INVOLVING USG PERSONNEL. REFTEL (M) FORWARDED A REQUEST FOR A LETTER OF OFFER FOR SIMPLEST OF ALL TEAMS -- A ONE-MAN TAFT TO SUPPORT US SUPPLIES EQUIPMENT (TOW). REQUEST APPEARS UNCONTROVERSIAL, BUT NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED. SINCE THIS WAS FIRST GOK REQUEST FOR TAFT, IT IS BEING VIEWED AS INDICATOR OF USG'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST. WE PRESUME DELAY IS RELATED TO NEED TO OBTAIN CLEAR AGREEMENT WITH GOK RE STATUS OF TAFT PERSONNEL. REQUEST CONFIRMATION.

8. REQUEST VIEWS AND COMMENTS FROM STATE AND DOD.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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